1 JL 2 WO 3 4 5 6 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA 8 9 Michael D. Escobar, No. CV-23-01740-PHX-JAT (DMF) 10 Plaintiff, 11 **ORDER** v. 12 Irene Barron Irby, et al., 13 Defendants. 14 15 On July 27, 2023, Plaintiff Michael D. Escobar, who is confined in a Maricopa 16 County Jail, filed a Complaint in the Superior Court of Maricopa County, Arizona, against 17 Irene Barron Irby, Sergeant Navarro, Officer Raymer, and Officer Bernardino. On August 22, 2023, Defendants Irby, Navarro, and Bernardino filed a Notice of Removal and 18 19

County Jail, filed a Complaint in the Superior Court of Maricopa County, Arizona, against Irene Barron Irby, Sergeant Navarro, Officer Raymer, and Officer Bernardino. On August 22, 2023, Defendants Irby, Navarro, and Bernardino filed a Notice of Removal and removed the case to this Court. On August 28, 2023, Defendants filed a Motion for Extension of Time to File Responsive Pleading/Motion to Dismiss. In an October 23, 2023 Order, the Court determined removal was proper and dismissed the Complaint with leave to amend because it was not filed on a court-approved form. The Court gave Plaintiff 30 days to file an amended complaint using the court-approved form. The Court denied as moot Defendants' Motion for Extension of Time.

On November 2, 2023, Plaintiff filed his First Amended Complaint. In a November 17, 2023 Order, the Court dismissed the First Amended Complaint with leave to amend because Plaintiff had failed to state a claim. The Court gave Plaintiff 30 days to file a second amended complaint that cured the deficiencies identified in the Order.

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On December 4, 2023, Plaintiff filed a Second Amended Complaint (Doc. 8). The Court will dismiss the Second Amended Complaint with leave to amend.

I. Statutory Screening of Prisoner Complaints

The Court is required to screen complaints brought by prisoners seeking relief against a governmental entity or an officer or an employee of a governmental entity. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(a). The Court must dismiss a complaint or portion thereof if a plaintiff has raised claims that are legally frivolous or malicious, that fail to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, or that seek monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief. 28 U.S.C. § 1915A(b)(1)–(2).

A pleading must contain a "short and plain statement of the claim *showing* that the pleader is entitled to relief." Fed. R. Civ. P. 8(a)(2) (emphasis added). While Rule 8 does not demand detailed factual allegations, "it demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation." *Ashcroft v. Iqbal*, 556 U.S. 662, 678 (2009). "Threadbare recitals of the elements of a cause of action, supported by mere conclusory statements, do not suffice." *Id*.

"[A] complaint must contain sufficient factual matter, accepted as true, to 'state a claim to relief that is plausible on its face." *Id.* (quoting *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, 550 U.S. 544, 570 (2007)). A claim is plausible "when the plaintiff pleads factual content that allows the court to draw the reasonable inference that the defendant is liable for the misconduct alleged." *Id.* "Determining whether a complaint states a plausible claim for relief [is] . . . a context-specific task that requires the reviewing court to draw on its judicial experience and common sense." *Id.* at 679. Thus, although a plaintiff's specific factual allegations may be consistent with a constitutional claim, a court must assess whether there are other "more likely explanations" for a defendant's conduct. *Id.* at 681.

But as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has instructed, courts must "continue to construe *pro se* filings liberally." *Hebbe v. Pliler*, 627 F.3d 338, 342 (9th Cir. 2010). A "complaint [filed by a *pro se* prisoner] 'must be held to less stringent standards than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers." *Id.* (quoting *Erickson v. Pardus*, 551

U.S. 89, 94 (2007) (per curiam)).

If the Court determines that a pleading could be cured by the allegation of other facts, a pro se litigant is entitled to an opportunity to amend a complaint before dismissal of the action. *See Lopez v. Smith*, 203 F.3d 1122, 1127-29 (9th Cir. 2000) (en banc). The Court will dismiss Plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint for failure to state a claim, but because it may possibly be amended to state a claim, the Court will dismiss it with leave to amend.

II. Second Amended Complaint

In his two-count Second Amended Complaint, Plaintiff sues Captain Irene Barron Irby, Sergeant Navarro, and Officers Raymer and Bernadino. Plaintiff asserts claims for excessive force and a threat to his safety. He seeks monetary relief.

Plaintiff designates Count One as an Eighth Amendment excessive force claim. Plaintiff alleges that on February 16, 2023, Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) staff aggressively assaulted him, which he claims "clearly violated [his] civil rights and broke the law." That day, Plaintiff was at the medical unit for existing injuries, and a "disagreement" occurred between Plaintiff and officers. According to Plaintiff, the officers forcefully picked him up and escorted him back to his cell. Defendant Raymer grabbed Plaintiff's left arm, which was injured, and Defendant Bernadino grabbed Plaintiff's right arm. This "caused [Plaintiff] to resist," and a "use of force/assist to the ground was [necessary]." Both officers "attempted to slam [Plaintiff] on [his] face," and Plaintiff "assisted [him]self to the ground." While Plaintiff was on the ground with both hands behind his back, Defendants Raymer and Bernadino struck him with a closed fist at least six times. Defendant Navarrao "just watched and failed to stop this ass[a]ult." Plaintiff suffered a "busted" nose, black eye, bruised ribs, emotional distress, pain and suffering, psychological trauma, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Plaintiff designates Count Two as a Fourteenth Amendment threat-to-safety claim. He alleges that Defendants failed to keep him safe and violated his rights by putting him in a "harmful situation" that led to their assault on him.

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III. Failure to State a Claim

To prevail in a § 1983 claim, a plaintiff must show that (1) acts by the defendants (2) under color of state law (3) deprived him of federal rights, privileges or immunities and (4) caused him damage. *Thornton v. City of St. Helens*, 425 F.3d 1158, 1163-64 (9th Cir. 2005) (quoting *Shoshone-Bannock Tribes v. Idaho Fish & Game Comm'n*, 42 F.3d 1278, 1284 (9th Cir. 1994)). In addition, a plaintiff must allege that he suffered a specific injury as a result of the conduct of a particular defendant and he must allege an affirmative link between the injury and the conduct of that defendant. *Rizzo v. Goode*, 423 U.S. 362, 371-72, 377 (1976).

A. Defendant Irby

There is no respondeat superior liability under § 1983, and therefore, a defendant's position as the supervisor of persons who allegedly violated Plaintiff's constitutional rights does not impose liability. *Monell v. Dep't of Soc. Servs.*, 436 U.S. 658 (1978); *Hamilton v. Endell*, 981 F.2d 1062, 1067 (9th Cir. 1992); *Taylor v. List*, 880 F.2d 1040, 1045 (9th Cir. 1989). "Because vicarious liability is inapplicable to *Bivens* and § 1983 suits, a plaintiff must plead that each Government-official defendant, through the official's own individual actions, has violated the Constitution." *Iqbal*, 556 U.S. at 676.

Plaintiff has not alleged that Defendant Irby personally participated in a deprivation of Plaintiff's constitutional rights, was aware of a deprivation and failed to act, or formed policies that resulted in Plaintiff's injuries. Plaintiff's only allegation against Defendant Irby is that she, along with the other named Defendants, failed to keep him safe and violated his rights by putting him in a "harmful situation." This vague, conclusory allegation does not support that Defendant Irby was personally involved in any deprivation of Plaintiff's rights. Thus, the Court will dismiss without prejudice Defendant Irby.

B. Excessive Force

The Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process Clause, and not the Eighth Amendment, applies to the use of excessive force against pretrial detainees that amounts to punishment. *Kingsley v. Hendrickson*, 576 U.S. 389, 397 (2015); *Gibson v. County of Washoe*, 290 F.3d

1175, 1197 (9th Cir. 2002). Force is excessive if the officers' use of force was "objectively unreasonable" in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them, without regard to their mental state. *Kingsley*, 576 U.S. at 396; *see also Graham v. Connor*, 490 U.S. 386, 397 (1989) (applying an objectively unreasonable standard to a Fourth Amendment excessive force claim arising during an investigatory stop). In determining whether the use of force was reasonable, the Court should consider factors including, but not limited to

the relationship between the need for the use of force and the amount of force used; the extent of the plaintiff's injury; any effort made by the officer to temper or to limit the amount of force; the severity of the security problem at issue; the threat reasonably perceived by the officer; and whether the plaintiff was actively resisting.

Kingsley, 576 U.S. at 397.

Because officers are often forced to make split-second decisions in rapidly evolving situations, the reasonableness of a particular use of force must be made "from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene, including what the officer knew at the time, not with the 20/20 vision of hindsight." *Id.* (citing *Graham*, 490 U.S. at 396). Further, "[n]ot every push or shove, even if it may later seem unnecessary in the peace of a judge's chambers," violates the Constitution. *Graham*, 490 U.S. at 396 (citation omitted).

Plaintiff's allegations are too vague and conclusory to state an excessive force claim. Plaintiff provides virtually no factual detail concerning what precipitated the initial use of force—i.e., the forceful lifting of Plaintiff. Plaintiff claims that he had a disagreement with officers, but he does not describe the disagreement. Plaintiff also asserts that when Defendants Raymer and Bernadino grabbed his arms, he resisted, and Defendants had to use force and/or assist Plaintiff to the ground. If Plaintiff was resisting, then some force might have been necessary to subdue him. As presented, the Court cannot reasonably infer that the force used was excessive. Plaintiff therefore fails to state an excessive force claim in Count One, which will be dismissed.

C. Failure to Intervene

Plaintiff alleges that Defendant Navarro "just watched and failed to stop" the

assault. The failure to intervene can support an excessive-use-of-force claim where a bystander-officer has a realistic opportunity to intervene but fails to do so. *Lolli v. Cnty. of Orange*, 351 F.3d 410, 418 (9th Cir. 2003); *Cunningham v. Gates*, 229 F.3d 1271, 1289 (9th Cir. 2000) (police officers can be liable for failing to intercede "when their fellow officers violate the constitutional rights of a suspect or other citizen," but only if they had an opportunity to intercede) (internal citation and quotation omitted); *cf. Garlick v. Kern*, 167 F. Supp. 3d 1117, 1161 (E.D. Cal. 2016) ("If an officer fails to intervene when fellow officers use excessive force, despite not acting to apply the force, he would be responsible for violating the Fourth Amendment" if the officer had a "realistic opportunity to intercede") (internal citations omitted). Plaintiff has not alleged sufficient facts to support a conclusion that Defendant Navarro had a reasonable opportunity to intervene and failed to do so. Further, because Plaintiff has failed to demonstrate that the other officers used excessive force against him, he has failed to demonstrate that Defendant Navarro had a duty to intervene. Thus, Plaintiff fails to state a claim against Defendant Navarro, and this Defendant will be dismissed.

D. Threat to Safety

A pretrial detainee has a right under the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to be free from punishment prior to an adjudication of guilt. *Bell v. Wolfish*, 441 U.S. 520, 535 (1979). "Pretrial detainees are entitled to 'adequate food, clothing, shelter, sanitation, medical care, and personal safety." *Alvarez-Machain v. United States*, 107 F.3d 696, 701 (9th Cir. 1996) (quoting *Hoptowit v. Ray*, 682 F.2d 1237, 1246 (9th Cir. 1982)). To state a claim of unconstitutional conditions of confinement against an individual defendant, a pretrial detainee must allege facts that show:

(i) the defendant made an intentional decision with respect to the conditions under which the plaintiff was confined; (ii) those conditions put the plaintiff at substantial risk of suffering serious harm; (iii) the defendant did not take reasonable available measures to abate that risk, even though a reasonable official in the circumstances would have appreciated the high degree of risk involved—making the consequences of the defendant's conduct obvious; and (iv) by

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not taking such measures, the defendant caused the plaintiff's injuries.

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Gordon v. County of Orange, 888 F.3d 1118, 1125 (9th Cir. 2018).

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Whether the conditions and conduct rise to the level of a constitutional violation is an objective assessment that turns on the facts and circumstances of each particular case. Id.; Hearns v. Terhune, 413 F.3d 1036, 1042 (9th Cir. 2005). However, "a de minimis level of imposition" is insufficient. *Bell*, 441 U.S. at 539 n.21. In addition, the "mere lack of due care by a state official' does not deprive an individual of life, liberty, or property under the Fourteenth Amendment." Castro v. County of Los Angeles, 833 F.3d 1060, 1071 (9th Cir. 2016) (quoting *Daniels v. Williams*, 474 U.S. 327, 330-31 (1986)). Thus, a

plaintiff must "prove more than negligence but less than subjective intent—something akin

to reckless disregard." Id.

In Count Two, Plaintiff alleges that Defendants failed to keep him safe and violated his rights by putting him in a "harmful situation" that led to their assault on him. This vague and conclusory allegation is insufficient to support that Defendants Irby and Navarro made an intentional decision before the alleged assault that put Plaintiff at substantial risk of serious harm from Defendants Raymer and Bernadino. Plaintiff fails to state a claim in

IV. **Leave to Amend**

Count Two, which will be dismissed.

For the foregoing reasons, the Court will dismiss Plaintiff's Second Amended Complaint for failure to state a claim upon which relief may be granted. Within 30 days, Plaintiff may submit a third amended complaint to cure the deficiencies outlined above. The Clerk of Court will mail Plaintiff a court-approved form to use for filing a third amended complaint. If Plaintiff fails to use the court-approved form, the Court may strike the third amended complaint and dismiss this action without further notice to Plaintiff.

Plaintiff must clearly designate on the face of the document that it is the "Third Amended Complaint." The third amended complaint must be retyped or rewritten in its entirety on the court-approved form and may not incorporate any part of the original

Complaint or prior Amended Complaints by reference. Plaintiff may include only one claim per count.

A third amended complaint supersedes the original Complaint and prior Amended Complaints. *Ferdik v. Bonzelet*, 963 F.2d 1258, 1262 (9th Cir. 1992); *Hal Roach Studios v. Richard Feiner & Co.*, 896 F.2d 1542, 1546 (9th Cir. 1990). After amendment, the Court will treat the original Complaint and prior Amended Complaints as nonexistent. *Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1262. Any cause of action that was raised in the original Complaint or prior Amended Complaints and that was voluntarily dismissed or was dismissed without prejudice is waived if it is not alleged in a third amended complaint. *Lacey v. Maricopa County*, 693 F.3d 896, 928 (9th Cir. 2012) (en banc).

If Plaintiff files an amended complaint, Plaintiff must write short, plain statements telling the Court: (1) the constitutional right Plaintiff believes was violated; (2) the name of the Defendant who violated the right; (3) exactly what that Defendant did or failed to do; (4) how the action or inaction of that Defendant is connected to the violation of Plaintiff's constitutional right; and (5) what specific injury Plaintiff suffered because of that Defendant's conduct. *See Rizzo*, 423 U.S. at 371-72, 377.

Plaintiff must repeat this process for each person he names as a Defendant. If Plaintiff fails to affirmatively link the conduct of each named Defendant with the specific injury suffered by Plaintiff, the allegations against that Defendant will be dismissed for failure to state a claim. Conclusory allegations that a Defendant or group of Defendants has violated a constitutional right are not acceptable and will be dismissed.

V. Warnings

A. Release

If Plaintiff is released while this case remains pending, and the filing fee has not been paid in full, Plaintiff must, within 30 days of his release, either (1) notify the Court that he intends to pay the unpaid balance of his filing fee within 120 days of his release or (2) file a <u>non-prisoner</u> application to proceed in forma pauperis. Failure to comply may

result in dismissal of this action.

B. Address Changes

Plaintiff must file and serve a notice of a change of address in accordance with Rule 83.3(d) of the Local Rules of Civil Procedure. Plaintiff must not include a motion for other relief with a notice of change of address. Failure to comply may result in dismissal of this action.

C. Possible "Strike"

Because the Second Amended Complaint has been dismissed for failure to state a claim, if Plaintiff fails to file a third amended complaint correcting the deficiencies identified in this Order, the dismissal may count as a "strike" under the "3-strikes" provision of 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g). Under the 3-strikes provision, a prisoner may not bring a civil action or appeal a civil judgment in forma pauperis under 28 U.S.C. § 1915 "if the prisoner has, on 3 or more prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility, brought an action or appeal in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner is under imminent danger of serious physical injury." 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g).

D. Possible Dismissal

If Plaintiff fails to timely comply with every provision of this Order, including these warnings, the Court may dismiss this action without further notice. *See Ferdik*, 963 F.2d at 1260-61 (a district court may dismiss an action for failure to comply with any order of the Court).

IT IS ORDERED:

- (1) The Second Amended Complaint (Doc. 8) is **dismissed** for failure to state a claim. Plaintiff has **30 days** from the date this Order is filed to file a third amended complaint in compliance with this Order.
- (2) If Plaintiff fails to file a third amended complaint within 30 days, the Clerk of Court must, without further notice, enter a judgment of dismissal of this action with

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prejudice that states that the dismissal may count as a "strike" under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g) and deny any pending unrelated motions as moot. The Clerk of Court must mail Plaintiff a court-approved form for filing a (3) civil rights complaint by a prisoner. Dated this 4th day of March, 2024. Senior United States District Judge

Instructions for a Prisoner Filing a Civil Rights Complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona

- 1. Who May Use This Form. The civil rights complaint form is designed to help incarcerated persons prepare a complaint seeking relief for a violation of their federal civil rights. These complaints typically concern, but are not limited to, conditions of confinement. **This form should not be used to challenge your conviction or sentence**. If you want to challenge a state conviction or sentence, you should file a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2254 for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in state custody. If you want to challenge a federal conviction or sentence, you should file a motion under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to vacate sentence in the federal court that entered the judgment.
- 2. The Form. Local Rule of Civil Procedure (LRCiv) 3.4 provides that complaints by incarcerated persons must be filed on the court-approved form. The form must be typed or neatly handwritten. The form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. All questions must be answered clearly and concisely in the appropriate space on the form. If needed, you may attach additional pages, but no more than fifteen additional pages, of standard letter-sized paper. You must identify which part of the complaint is being continued and number all pages. If you do not fill out the form properly, you will be asked to submit additional or corrected information, which may delay the processing of your action. You do not need to cite law.
- 3. <u>Your Signature</u>. You must tell the truth and sign the form. If you make a false statement of a material fact, you may be prosecuted for perjury.
- 4. The Filing and Administrative Fees. The total fees for this action are \$455.00 (\$350.00 filing fee plus \$55.00 administrative fee). If you are unable to immediately pay the fees, you may request leave to proceed in forma pauperis. Please review the "Information for Prisoners Seeking Leave to Proceed with a (Non-Habeas) Civil Action in Federal Court In Forma Pauperis Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915" for additional instructions.
- 5. Original and Judge's Copy. You must send an original plus one copy of your complaint and of any other documents submitted to the Court. You must send one additional copy to the Court if you wish to have a file-stamped copy of the document returned to you. All copies must be identical to the original. Copies may be legibly handwritten. This section does not apply to inmates housed at an Arizona Department of Corrections facility that participates in electronic filing.
- 6. Where to File. You should file your complaint in the division where you were confined when your rights were allegedly violated. See LRCiv 5.1(a) and 77.1(a). If you were confined in Maricopa, Pinal, Yuma, La Paz, or Gila County, file in the Phoenix Division. If you were confined in Apache, Navajo, Coconino, Mohave, or Yavapai County, file in the Prescott Division. If you were confined in Pima, Cochise, Santa Cruz, Graham, or Greenlee County, file in the Tucson Division. Unless you are an inmate housed at an Arizona Department of Corrections facility that participates in electronic filing, mail the original and one copy of the complaint with the \$455 filing and administrative fees or the application to proceed in forma pauperis to:

Phoenix & Prescott Divisions:ORTucson Division:U.S. District Court ClerkU.S. District Court ClerkU.S. Courthouse, Suite 130U.S. Courthouse, Suite 1500401 West Washington Street, SPC 10405 West Congress StreetPhoenix, Arizona 85003-2119Tucson, Arizona 85701-5010

- 7. <u>Change of Address</u>. You must immediately notify the Court and the defendants in writing of any change in your mailing address. Failure to notify the Court of any change in your mailing address may result in the dismissal of your case.
- 8. <u>Certificate of Service</u>. You must furnish the defendants with a copy of any document you submit to the Court (except the initial complaint and application to proceed in forma pauperis). Each original document (except the initial complaint and application to proceed in forma pauperis) must include a certificate of service on the last page of the document stating the date a copy of the document was mailed to the defendants and the address to which it was mailed. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(a), (d). Any document received by the Court that does not include a certificate of service may be stricken. This section does not apply to inmates housed at an Arizona Department of Corrections facility that participates in electronic filing.

A certificate of service should be in the following form:

I hereby certify that a cop this	y of the foregoing document was mailed (month, day, year) to:
Name: Address:	
Attorney fo	r Defendant(s)
(Signature)	·

- 9. <u>Amended Complaint</u>. If you need to change any of the information in the initial complaint, you must file an amended complaint. The amended complaint must be written on the court-approved civil rights complaint form. You may file one amended complaint without leave (permission) of Court within 21 days after serving it or within 21 days after any defendant has filed an answer, whichever is earlier. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a). Thereafter, you must file a motion for leave to amend and lodge (submit) a proposed amended complaint. LRCiv 15.1. In addition, an amended complaint may not incorporate by reference any part of your prior complaint. LRCiv 15.1(a)(2). **Any allegations or defendants not included in the amended complaint are considered dismissed**. All amended complaints are subject to screening under the Prison Litigation Reform Act; screening your amendment will take additional processing time.
- 10. <u>Exhibits</u>. You should not submit exhibits with the complaint or amended complaint. Instead, the relevant information should be paraphrased. You should keep the exhibits to use to support or oppose a motion to dismiss, a motion for summary judgment, or at trial.
- 11. <u>Letters and Motions</u>. It is generally inappropriate to write a letter to any judge or the staff of any judge. The only appropriate way to communicate with the Court is by filing a written pleading or motion.

12. Completing the Civil Rights Complaint Form.

HEADING:

- 1. <u>Your Name</u>. Print your name, prison or inmate number, and institutional mailing address on the lines provided.
- 2. <u>Defendants</u>. If there are **four or fewer** defendants, print the name of each. If you name **more than four** defendants, print the name of the first defendant on the first line, write the words "and others" on the second line, and attach an additional page listing the names of **all** of the defendants. Insert the additional page after page 1 and number it "1-A" at the bottom.
- 3. <u>Jury Demand</u>. If you want a jury trial, you must write "JURY TRIAL DEMANDED" in the space below "CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT BY A PRISONER." Failure to do so may result in the loss of the right to a jury trial. A jury trial is not available if you are seeking only injunctive relief.

Part A. JURISDICTION:

- 1. <u>Nature of Suit</u>. Mark whether you are filing the complaint pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 for state, county, or city defendants; "*Bivens v. Six Unknown Federal Narcotics Agents*" for federal defendants; or "other." If you mark "other," identify the source of that authority.
- 2. <u>Location</u>. Identify the institution and city where the alleged violation of your rights occurred.
- 3. <u>Defendants</u>. Print all of the requested information about each of the defendants in the spaces provided. If you are naming more than four defendants, you must provide the necessary information about each additional defendant on separate pages labeled "2-A," "2-B," etc., at the bottom. Insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

Part B. PREVIOUS LAWSUITS:

You must identify any other lawsuit you have filed in either state or federal court while you were a prisoner. Print all of the requested information about each lawsuit in the spaces provided. If you have filed more than three lawsuits, you must provide the necessary information about each additional lawsuit on a separate page. Label the page(s) as "2-A," "2-B," etc., at the bottom of the page and insert the additional page(s) immediately behind page 2.

Part C. CAUSE OF ACTION:

You must identify what rights each defendant violated. The form provides space to allege three separate counts (**one violation per count**). If you are alleging more than three counts, you must provide the necessary information about each additional count on a separate page. Number the additional pages "5-A," "5-B," etc., and insert them immediately behind page 5. Remember that you are limited to a total of fifteen additional pages.

- 1. <u>Counts</u>. You must identify which civil right was violated. You may allege the violation of only one civil right per count.
- 2. <u>Issue Involved</u>. Check the box that most closely identifies the issue involved in your claim. **You may check only one box per count**. If you check the box marked "Other," you must identify the specific issue involved.
- 3. <u>Supporting Facts</u>. After you have identified which civil right was violated, you must state the supporting facts. Be as specific as possible. You must state what each individual defendant did to violate your rights. If there is more than one defendant, you must identify which defendant did what act. You also should state the date(s) on which the act(s) occurred, if possible.
- 4. <u>Injury</u>. State precisely how you were injured by the alleged violation of your rights.
- 5. <u>Administrative Remedies</u>. You must exhaust any available administrative remedies before you file a civil rights complaint. *See* 42 U.S.C. § 1997e. Consequently, you should disclose whether you have exhausted the inmate grievance procedures or administrative appeals for each count in your complaint. If the grievance procedures were not available for any of your counts, fully explain why on the lines provided.

Part D. REQUEST FOR RELIEF:

Print the relief you are seeking in the space provided.

SIGNATURE:

You must sign your name and print the date you signed the complaint. Failure to sign the complaint will delay the processing of your action. Unless you are an attorney, you may not bring an action on behalf of anyone but yourself.

FINAL NOTE

You should follow these instructions carefully. Failure to do so may result in your complaint being stricken or dismissed. All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number the pages.

Name and Prisoner/Booking Number	-
Place of Confinement	_
Mailing Address	_
City, State, Zip Code	-
(Failure to notify the Court of your change of address may result in	dismissal of this action.)
IN THE UNITED STATE FOR THE DISTRIC	
(Full Name of Plaintiff)	
Plaintiff,	
v.	CASE NO.
(1)	(To be supplied by the Clerk)
(1), (Full Name of Defendant)	CIVIL RIGHTS COMPLAINT
(2),	BY A PRISONER
(3)	
(4)	☐ Original Complaint ☐ First Amended Complaint
Defendant(s).	☐ Second Amended Complaint
Check if there are additional Defendants and attach page 1-A listing them.	
A. JURISI	DICTION
1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant ☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1343(a); 42 U.S.C. § 1983 ☐ 28 U.S.C. § 1331; Bivens v. Six Unknown Fe ☐ Other:	ederal Narcotics Agents, 403 U.S. 388 (1971).
2. Institution/city where violation occurred:	

Revised 12/1/23 1 550/555

B. DEFENDANTS

1.	Name o	f first Defendant:		The first Defendant is employed
as: _		(Position and Title)	at	(Institution)
				The second Defendant is employed as:
as: _		(Position and Title)	at	(Institution)
				The third Defendant is employed
as: _		(Position and Title)	at	(Institution)
4.	Name o	f fourth Defendant:		The fourth Defendant is employed
as: _		(Position and Title)	at	(Institution)
If yo	u name mo	ore than four Defendants, answer the questions	listed above for each	additional Defendant on a separate page.
		C. PREV	IOUS LAWSUIT	ΓS
1.	Have yo	ou filed any other lawsuits while you we	ere a prisoner?	□ Yes □ No
2.	If yes, h	now many lawsuits have you filed?	Describe	the previous lawsuits:
	a Firs	t prior lawsuit:		
	1.	Parties:	V.	
	2.	Court and case number:		
		·	Was it appealed?	Is it still pending?)
	h Sec	ond prior lawsuit:		
		-	V	
	2	Court and case number:	v	
		Result: (Was the case dismissed?	Was it appealed?	Is it still pending?)
		1 . 1		·
		rd prior lawsuit:		
	1.	Parties:	V	
		Court and case number:		
	3.	Result: (Was the case dismissed?	Was it appealed?	Is it still pending?)

If you filed more than three lawsuits, answer the questions listed above for each additional lawsuit on a separate page.

D. CAUSE OF ACTION

COUNT I

1.	State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated:		
2.		unt I. Identify the issue involved. Check only one. State additional issues in separate counts. Basic necessities □ Mail □ Access to the court □ Medical care Disciplinary proceedings □ Property □ Exercise of religion □ Retaliation Excessive force by an officer □ Threat to safety □ Other:	
	h De	pporting Facts. State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count I. Describe exactly what fendant did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without gal authority or arguments.	
4.	Inj	ury. State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).	
5.	a.b.c.	ministrative Remedies: Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count I? Did you appeal your request for relief on Count I to the highest level? Yes No	
		Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count I?	

COUNT II

1.	State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated:		
2.		unt II. Identify the issue involved. Check only one. State additional issues in separate counts. Basic necessities □ Mail □ Access to the court □ Medical care Disciplinary proceedings □ Property □ Exercise of religion □ Retaliation Excessive force by an officer □ Threat to safety □ Other:	
	h De	pporting Facts. State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count II. Describe exactly what fendant did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without gal authority or arguments.	
4.	Inj	ury. State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s).	
5.	Ad a.	ministrative Remedies. Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at	
	1.	your institution?	
	b. с.	Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count II? ☐ Yes ☐ No Did you appeal your request for relief on Count II to the highest level? ☐ Yes ☐ No	
	d.	If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you did not.	

COUNT III State the constitutional or other federal civil right that was violated: 1. Count III. Identify the issue involved. Check only one. State additional issues in separate counts. 2. ☐ Basic necessities ☐ Mail \square Access to the court ☐ Medical care ☐ Disciplinary proceedings ☐ Property ☐ Exercise of religion ☐ Retaliation \square Excessive force by an officer ☐ Threat to safety ☐ Other: _____ Supporting Facts. State as briefly as possible the FACTS supporting Count III. Describe exactly what each Defendant did or did not do that violated your rights. State the facts clearly in your own words without citing legal authority or arguments. **Injury.** State how you were injured by the actions or inactions of the Defendant(s). 5. **Administrative Remedies.** Are there any administrative remedies (grievance procedures or administrative appeals) available at your institution? ☐ Yes Did you submit a request for administrative relief on Count III? ☐ Yes \square No b. Did you appeal your request for relief on Count III to the highest level? ☐ Yes c. If you did not submit or appeal a request for administrative relief at any level, briefly explain why you d.

If you assert more than three Counts, answer the questions listed above for each additional Count on a separate page.

did not.

E. REQUEST FOR RELIEF

State the relief you are seeking:		
I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and	l correct.	
Executed on		
DATE	SIGNATURE OF PLAINTIFF	
(Name and title of paralegal, legal assistant, or		
other person who helped prepare this complaint)		
(Signature of attorney, if any)		
(Attorney's address & telephone number)		

ADDITIONAL PAGES

All questions must be answered concisely in the proper space on the form. If you need more space, you may attach no more than fifteen additional pages. But the form must be completely filled in to the extent applicable. If you attach additional pages, be sure to identify which section of the complaint is being continued and number all pages.